



Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office Operations Directorate — Fact Sheet

ISSUE: DoD Directive 1300.7, “Training and Education Measures Necessary to Support the Code of Conduct”

BACKGROUND: DoD Directive (DoDD) 1300.7 establishes policies and procedures, and provides guidance for developing and executing training for Americans military personnel in the Code of Conduct before they become prisoners. The Code of Conduct provides standards of behavior for the American military during combat or captivity.

In 1988 the Deputy Secretary of Defense assigned proponentcy for DoDD 1300.7 to ASD(FM&P) under USD(P&R). Since then, Congress revised U.S. Code, Title 10, Section 1501, *Missing Persons* and directed the Secretary of Defense to “establish an office within the Office of the Secretary of Defense to have responsibility for DoD policy relating to missing persons.” In March 1995, the Deputy Secretary of Defense implemented the legislation and approved DoDD 5111.7. This directed the ASD(ISA), under the USD(P) to develop, coordinate, and oversee the implementation of policy relating to prisoners of war and missing in action matters. In September 1996, USD(P) assigned the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) to support the ASD(ISA) in his responsibilities for policy, control, and oversight of the entire process for investigation and recovery related to missing persons. On March 19, 1998 Deputy Secretary of Defense (DepSecDef) transferred proponentcy of DoDD 1300.7 from USD(P&R) to ASD(ISA).

DISCUSSION:

DoD last issued DoDD 1300.7 in 1988. Training and education to support the Code of Conduct have changed and the organizational responsibilities have changed. The Joint Services SERE Agency (JSSA) was formed in 1991 when the Air Force Chief of Staff designated the Air Force Operations Directorate as the office of primary responsibility for Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape; and Code of Conduct training. In 1997, DPMO promulgated DoDD 2310.2, “Personnel Recovery,” to establish policy and assign responsibilities for personnel recovery.

Following these two events, DPMO worked with JSSA and applied DoDD 2310.2 to the old DoDD 1300.7. We included changes in DoD policy and procedures, and in December 1998, DPMO sent a revised DoDD 1300.7 to the Services, Combatant Commands, and other DoD organizations involved in the overseeing Code of Conduct training for their initial coordination. DPMO expects to submit the final revision to the DepSecDef for his consideration in Fall 1999.